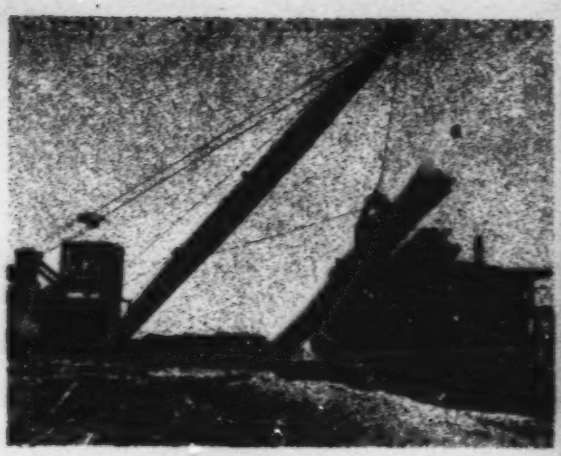

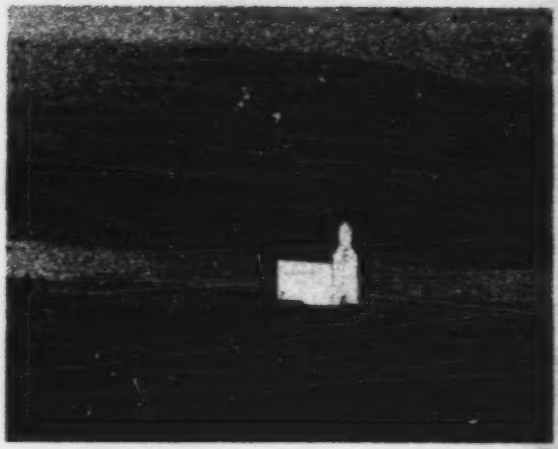

ANNUAL REPORT
1982/1983

Alberta
NORTHERN ALBERTA
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL

Alberta

TOURISM AND SMALL BUSINESS

403/427-3182

Office of
the Minister

104 Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T5K 2B6

May 16, 1983

To His Honour
Frank Lynch-Staunton
Lieutenant-Governor of the
Province of Alberta

Sir:

The undesigned has the honour to transmit herewith the Nineteenth Annual Report of the Northern Alberta Development Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. J. Allen "Boomer" Adair
Minister Responsible for the
Northern Alberta Development Council

Alberta
NORTHERN ALBERTA
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

2nd Floor, Provincial Building, 9621 - 96 Avenue, Postal Bag 900-14, Peace River, Alberta, Canada T0H 2X0 403/624-6274

May 16, 1983

Hon. J.A. "Boomer" Adair
Minister Responsible for the
Northern Alberta Development Council

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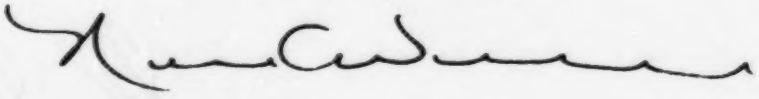
The undersigned has the honour to transmit herewith the Nineteenth Annual Report of the Northern Alberta Development Council.

Respectfully submitted,



Norm A. Weiss, M.L.A.
Chairman

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STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Norm A. Weiss, M.L.A.
Chairman,
Northern Alberta Development Council

The 1982/83 annual report is the first time I have had the pleasure and responsibility to report to the Legislative Assembly as Chairman of the Northern Alberta Development Council. I do so on behalf of myself and the previous chairman, Elmer Borstad, the former MLA for Grande Prairie.

The year under review saw the Council continue its strong public participation mechanisms on behalf of northerners and initiate a number of new priorities for community and economic development in Northern Alberta.

Seven public meetings were held in Hines Creek, Fox Creek, Fort McMurray, Wabasca/Desmarais, Wembley, Fort Kent, and Manning, resulting in the receipt of 184 briefs. Fort McMurray was a special meeting with regard to the Alsands decision, and the Wabasca/Desmarais meeting was the culmination of a major regional visit to isolated communities in the area. The Council spent considerable time following up the ideas and concerns expressed by the various residents and community organizations.

The Council also sponsored two major review activities during the year. The first involved an Adult Education and Training in Northern Alberta Workshop. The second, a report and seminar on Alcoholism: Strategies for Northern Alberta, focussed on possible solutions to the prevalent problem of addictions. Important meetings were also held with ministers and various senior officials to address northern issues in agriculture, mental health, recreation, land use, workers' compensation, television services and education.

Prior to year end, two new members were selected from the public nomination process to join a new M.L.A. member appointed to the Council. We all look forward to continuing our efforts in 1983/84 on behalf of Northern Albertans.

NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

NORTHERN ALBERTA
DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL

THE NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 1982/83

Elmer E. Borstad, MLA
Chairman (Apr. - Nov.)
Grande Prairie

Norm Weiss, MLA
Chairman (Dec. - Mar.)
Fort McMurray

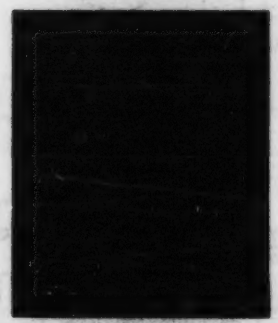
Al "Beemer" Adair
Minister Responsible for
Northern Development
Peace River

Barbara Wilkinson
Vice Chairman, Athabasca

Dr. Bob Elliott, MLA
Grande Prairie

Peter Erasmus
McRae

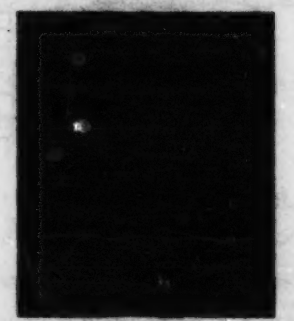
Walter Holowack
Grande Cache



Christine Jones
McLennan

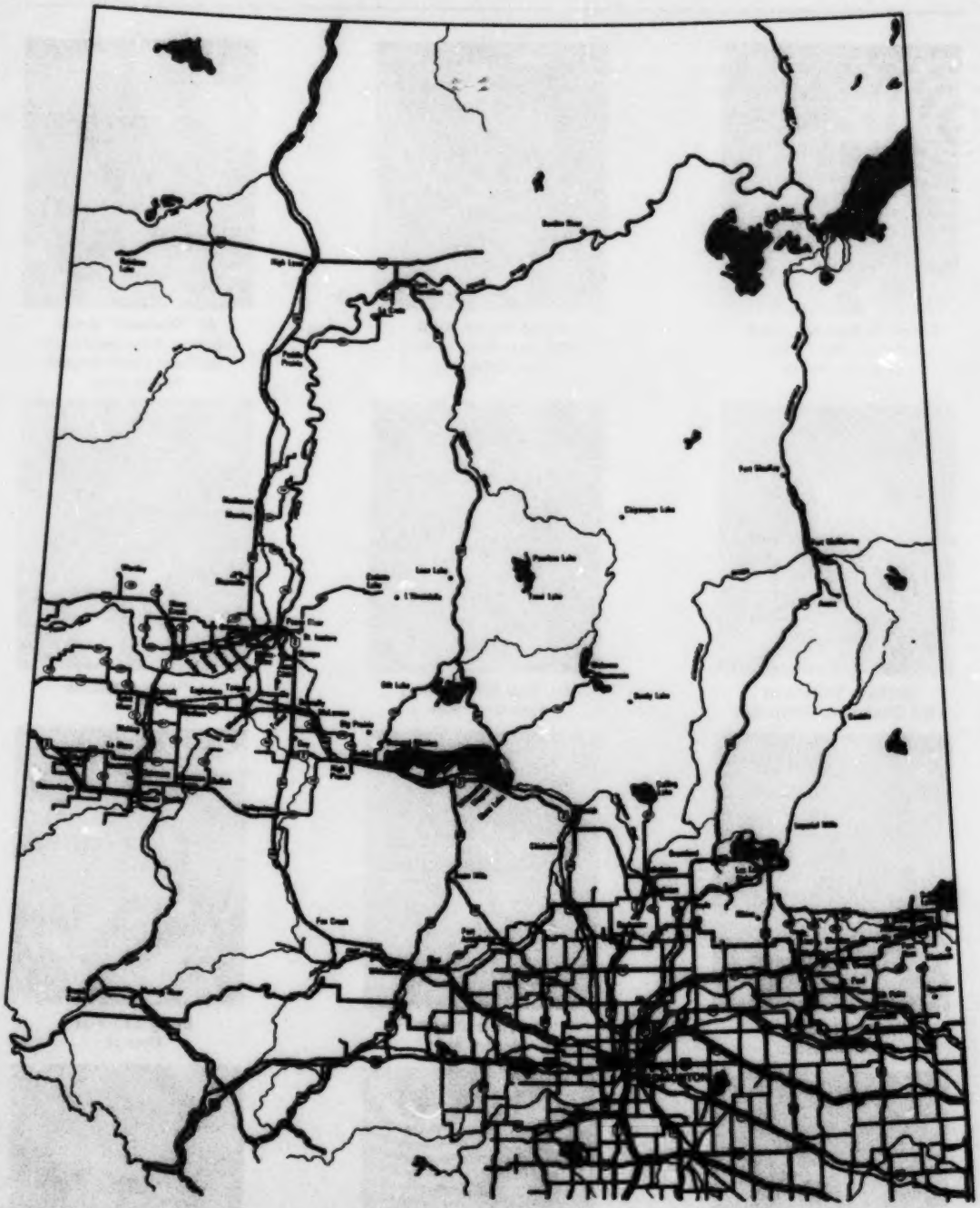
Barry Lazoruk
Rycroft

Joanne Mitchell
High Level



Dick Upham
Ashmont

Victor Young
Whitecourt



NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AREA

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The Northern Alberta Development Council was initially created in 1963 as a five member advisory body to the provincial government. It was enlarged in 1973 to a membership of ten, and currently consists of eight private citizens appointed on the basis of public nominations, and two elected members of the Legislative Assembly.

Through its own Act, the Northern Alberta Development Council is charged with the responsibility to "investigate, monitor, evaluate, plan and promote practical measures to foster and advance general development in Northern Alberta and to advise the government thereon." The act makes specific reference to social and economic development, the development of communities and service delivery, and the development of government services and programs.

The Council, at present, has a full-time MLA chairman, and reports to the executive council through the minister of tourism and small business, responsible for northern development.

The Council's primary role is to provide government with a northern point of view on a wide range of issues, supplementing and complementing the perspectives of northern MLAs. A major objective of council since 1973 has been to increase the amount of public participation in the planning and design of delivery systems for various government services in Northern Alberta.

The general purposes that Council wishes to promote are:

- To enhance economic and educational opportunities within Northern Alberta in order to encourage young people to stay.

- To enhance the viability of traditional northern small town and rural life.

- To support the desires of disadvantaged people in Northern Alberta for a fair share in the wealth and potential of the area.

- To support the desires of various cultural and ethnic groups within Northern Alberta for maintenance of their distinctive heritage.

Through regularly scheduled public meetings and sponsorship of major conferences and seminars, the Council serves as a forum to which residents can express their ideas and concerns regarding development of the north. In addition to receiving briefs at public meetings, the Council can initiate research into particular opportunities or needs, and often

pursues, on behalf of northern residents, efforts toward the development of new programs or coordination of the existing service delivery.

The information service provided through the response to briefs received from the public, results in the initiation of most Council activities. Sixty percent of the briefs presented to the Northern Alberta Development Council since 1973 have resulted in positive responses.

Issues considered by the Northern Alberta Development Council during the year under review were many, including resource development, tourism, alcoholism, education, infrastructure systems, recreation costs, health services, agriculture and local government concerns.

During June of 1982, an Adult Education and Training in Northern Alberta workshop was held at Athabasca to review thoughts and concerns regarding the advanced education system in Northern Alberta. In January of 1983 a Council-sponsored seminar in Grand Centre examined the findings of a major research report, Alcoholism: Strategies for Northern Alberta.

The Northern Alberta Development Council serves as a catalyst, assisting the line departments of government responsible for the implementation of changes and service improvements. The Council's public participation role has provided a better two-way flow of information, resulting in marked improvements for all Northern Albertans.

NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC MEETINGS

During 1982/83, the Northern Alberta Development Council held seven public meetings: at Hines Creek in April, Fox Creek and Fort McMurray in May, Wabasca/Desmarais in July, Wembley in September, Fort Kent in December, and Manning in February. Visitations were also made to the remote communities of Loon Lake, Red Earth Creek, Peerless Lake, Trout Lake, Sandy Lake, Calling Lake, Gift Lake, and Atikameg as preparation to the Wabasca/Desmarais meeting. Five other regular monthly meetings were held, along with two workshops and a number of special activities.

One hundred and eighty-four briefs were received from groups and individuals in attendance at the public meetings. Each brief submitted was reviewed by Council to determine a course of action, and forwarded to various departments and agencies of government for consideration and comment. Departmental responses were then reviewed by Council, and a decision made as to whether or not the department's position and/or proposed action was appropriate. If the departmental response was felt to be inappropriate, the Council directed the northern development branch to further clarify the issue through branch-directed research, or to undertake discussions with the responsible officials in order to achieve the necessary action. At times, coordination of the efforts of a number of departments of government was required. Brief originators were advised of the progress made on each of the ideas or concerns expressed in their submissions.

The results achieved by the Council varied greatly from brief to brief. In several instances, the concerns raised were either totally or partially resolved. In some cases, the Council and Branch are continuing to work towards a practical solution which is acceptable to all involved. The current status of any of the briefs submitted to Council is available from the Northern Development Branch in Peace River.

Briefs

During the year, 13 briefs were received from Fort McMurray and Anzac in the northeast region; 42 from Whitecourt, Calling Lake, Slave Lake, Wabasca/Desmarais, Peerless Lake, Sandy Lake, Swan Hills, Loon Lake, Gift Lake, Chipewyan Lakes, Faust, High Prairie and Widewater in the central region; 22 from Bonnyville, Lac La Biche, Elk Point, Cold Lake, Grand Centre, Fishing Lake, Plamondon, Hoselaw, Kikino, La Corey and Medley in the southeast region; 60 from High Level, Manning, Peace River, Fairview, Fort Vermilion, Hines Creek, Worsley, Cleardale, La Crete, Buffalo Head Prairie, Grimshaw, Hotchkiss and Assumption in the northwest region; 37 from Grande Prairie, Hythe, Fox Creek, Grande Cache, Sexsmith, Spirit River, Valleyview, Wembley, Valhalla Centre, Woking, McLennan, Donnelly and Beaverlodge in the southwest region; and 10 from Edmonton and other points outside the Northern Alberta Development Council boundary.

RESEARCH AND COORDINATION

Many of the issues brought to the attention of the Northern Alberta Development Council required intensive background work and follow-up activities. As a result, the Council initiated a number of research projects and efforts directed at coordination or modification of the delivery of government services in various areas.

Major Council activities in 1982/83 included:

- Continued work on a review of fire protection and prevention in Northern Alberta with the departments of Labour, Education, Municipal affairs, the Fire Chiefs Association and municipal bodies.

- A meeting with the new Social Services and Community Health regional directors review various concerns raised in briefs and discuss the regionalization of the department.

- Attendance at the Mental Health Advisory Council workshops held in northern areas and a Council submission to the Ministerial Review Task Force.

- A meeting with the Minister of Recreation and Parks to discuss recreation funding needs and various concerns which have come forward in briefs.

- Discussions with officials from the Environment Council of Alberta regarding land use in Northern Alberta and proposed public hearings on maintaining and expanding the agricultural land base.

- A meeting with the Minister Responsible for Worker's Health, Safety and Compensation to discuss concerns regarding changes in the Worker's Compensation Act and other related matters.

- Completion of an intensive community survey in Fort McMurray regarding the effect of the Alsands decision.

- A review of the concerns expressed by several northern centres regarding cable television services.

- A meeting with the Associate Minister of Telephones to discuss provision of television services in remote communities, as well as other related concerns regarding satellite receivers.

- A detailed meeting with the Premier to review priorities and strategies for the future.

- A meeting with the Deputy Minister of Education to discuss various northern issues.

- Continued liaison and follow-up regarding the McNeil Committee Report reviewing the operations of the Northland School Division.

- A review of the recommendations arising from the 1978 Northern Alberta Development Council Agriculture North Seminar and discussions with the Minister of Agriculture.

- A follow-up meeting with the Ministers of Advanced Education and of Manpower regarding recommendations from the Adult Education and Training Workshop.

- A periodic review meeting with northern MLAs to discuss progress, goals and priorities for Northern Alberta.

- Release of a Community Impact Assessment Handbook and Guidelines for Research for use by northern communities.

- Support for the Calling Lake and Swan Hills Community Assessment Studies.

- Support for agricultural research in the Bonnyville and Lac La Biche areas and a beachfront development study in the Cold Lake area.

- Representation at the ninth National Northern Development Conference, October 27-29, Edmonton.

- Initiation of a major review of development of new agricultural land in Northern Alberta.

- Establishment of a northern research registry.

- Completion of major background analysis and coordination activities involding the over-65 population, mental health issues, waste heat utilization and remote economic development.

- Input into a number of interdepartmental committees in such areas as vocational training, water and sewer delivery, social employment programming, resource development, housing, third level air carriers, grain handling, second channel television and infrastructure provision in remote communities.

ADULT EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN NORTHERN ALBERTA

Over the years, the Northern Alberta Development Council has received a wide variety of briefs touching on the many aspects of adult education and training. Although, in the Council's view, Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower and the learning institutions in the north had been fairly responsive to specific issues raised, it was felt timely to commission an independent review and convene a delegate workshop.

A Council background research report to provide an overview and common data base for discussions was completed in early 1982. From June 21-23, 1982, over 100 representatives of Northern Alberta communities, educational institutions, industry and government met in Athabasca to review and reach consensus on priorities and recommendations regarding adult education and training in Northern Alberta.

Both the research document and the workshop discussions expressed a positive overall reaction. Delegates at the workshop generally concurred with the researchers that "the system" operated fairly well, but there was room for improvement. Although the delegates differed with the researchers in order, intensity and expression of system problems and solutions, the substance of their conclusions and recommendations to the Northern Alberta Development Council were the same.

A report outlining the activities of the workshop was presented as feedback to the delegates and as general information of interest to northerners. The Council completed the review process in March of 1983 by presenting and discussing some 22 recommendations with the Ministers of Manpower and Advanced Education. The recommendations covered the areas of values, local delivery, Native education, distance education, funding and jurisdictions.

A printed summary report is available from the Northern Development Branch, Bag 900-14, Peace River, Alberta, T0H 2X0.

ALCOHOLISM: STRATEGIES FOR NORTHERN ALBERTA

During 1982/83, the Northern Alberta Development Council also addressed a major recurring social issue raised in many briefs — the continuing need for improved addiction services in Northern Alberta. An intensive review process was initiated by a meeting between the Council and the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. Detailed discussions resulted in the approval of a joint research study to examine strategies for improving alcohol and drug abuse treatment in the north.

It was felt that extensive community input was vital in order to properly review existing service delivery and develop plans for the future. Therefore, a major part of the study process involved contacting interested community members and health service professionals to participate in a series of eight mini-workshops held throughout the north. The mini-workshops were held during the summer of 1982 in Fort McMurray, St. Paul, Lac La Biche, Slave Lake, Whitecourt, Peace River, Grande Prairie and High Level. These day-long sessions documented northerners' views and concerns regarding alcohol and drug abuse problems. Suggestions for community-based actions were also solicited.

A draft report highlighting the major observations was completed in November of 1982, and the Council convened a general workshop January 17-19, 1983 at Grand Centre to examine the results and implications of the study. The 120 delegates were asked to respond to the report and provide recommendations on strategies to manage addiction problems in Northern Alberta more effectively. Topics discussed included the following themes: community potential for action; levels of service; alternatives in terms of prevention, treatment and crisis services; and the role of communities, AADAC, NADC and the various helping professions.

The Council intends to complete the review process by presenting recommendations for consideration by AADAC and other government agencies. Printed copies of the workshop report are available from the Northern Development Branch.

STUDENT BURSARY PROGRAM

Created in 1974, the Northern Alberta Development Council Student Bursary Program is designed to encourage young people to obtain technical training or professional qualifications that are in high demand in northern areas of the province.

Students assisted through the program are obligated to work in Northern Alberta, preferably in remote and isolated locations, for at least one year for each year of bursary support received.

The bursary program is administered by the Students Finance Board. A selection committee, made up of four members of the Northern Alberta Development Council and one representative each from the Metis Association of Alberta, the Students Finance Board and Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower, is responsible for the establishment of guidelines and selection of candidates for bursary support.

On the basis of criteria including need, northern experience and special circumstances, the selection committee granted bursary assistance in 1982/83 to 157 applicants for a total of $593,053.

Bursary rates of up to $3,500 for single students and up to $5,600 per academic year for married students were established in 1980/81. Since the inception of the program, bursaries have been awarded to over 1,100 students at a total expenditure of $3.5 million. Bursaries have been awarded in the areas of health care, education, social services, business-related studies and engineering. Most of the returning graduates have remained in the north to contribute to the growing and diverse economy of the region.

NEW COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Following the provincial election in October of 1982, Norm Weiss, MLA for Lac La Biche/Fort McMurray, was re-appointed to the Council and named Chairman. Dr. C.R. Elliott, the new MLA for Grande Prairie, was also named to the Council.

In late 1982, through public advertisements in all northern newspapers, nominations were solicited from northern community groups and organizations for nominees to replace retiring public members of the Council.

In March, 1983, the provincial cabinet, through the Minister Responsible for Northern Development, the Hon. J.A. Adair, appointed two new members to the Northern Alberta Development Council. The membership for 1983/84 includes:

Norm A. Weiss, MLA, Lac La Biche/Fort McMurray, Chairman
Barry Lazoruk, Rycroft, Vice-Chairman
Dr. Robert Elliott, MLA, Grande Prairie
Peter Erasmus, McRae
Christina Jones, McLennan
Joanne Mitchell, High Level
Joseph Molho, Swan Hills
Rodney Todd, Cold Lake
Richard Upham, Ashmont
Victor Young, Whitecourt

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

NORTHERN
DEVELOPMENT
BRANCH

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

The purpose of the Northern Development Branch of Alberta Tourism and Small Business is to participate in developing and maintaining a socio-economic environment in Northern Alberta which gives maximum opportunity for the inhabitants of the area to grow and prosper.

In achieving its purpose, the Branch provides all the administrative and technical support activities required by the Northern Alberta Development Council, coordinates the federal/provincial Alberta North Subsidiary Agreement, and attempts to implement a flexible strategy of achieving specific socio-economic improvements in Northern Alberta.

The Branch seeks to advance the development of human and natural resources in Northern Alberta, as well as aiding in community development goals such as local decision making and planning. It delves into a wide variety of issues as a result of briefs received by the Northern Alberta Development Council, e.g., health services, manpower training, community infrastructure, education, economic development, housing needs, transportation and communications services, and resource development.

The **Research and Analysis Section** of the Branch provides the review and planning function for Northern Alberta socio-economic improvements. Basic research is performed, and background and position papers prepared in support of the council in its role as an advisory body to government. Examples of major projects undertaken by the Section on behalf of the Council during the fiscal year included: review papers on resource development projects, agriculture, education, recreation and mental health; initiation of the Northern Research Registry; community growth studies in Swan Hills and Calling Lake; a Community Impact Assessment Handbook; and studies in the areas of alcoholism, grey-wooded soils, welfare alternatives, greenhouses, elderly care, aircraft maintenance, medical/dental practice opportunities and agricultural land development.

The purpose of the **Program Coordination Section** is to facilitate and assist in the coordination of activities of various line departments and agencies to achieve maximum opportunities for socio-economic development in Northern Alberta. Within this context, the Section had a major responsibility for implementation of the 1978-83 Alberta North Subsidiary Agreement. In the area of northern coordination efforts on behalf of the Council, extensive staff time was spent on interdepartmental liaison activities such as water and sewer delivery, television services, transportation needs, resource development, commercial fishing, natural gas and electrification services, fire prevention, social employment

programs, vocational training, northern school divisions and planning for the Annual Conference of Northern Ministers.

The Council Administration Section provides technical and logistical support to the Chairman's office in Fort McMurray and to individual Council members for the monthly meetings. During 1982/1983, seven public meetings, five closed meetings, a meeting with the Premier, and a tour of the isolated communities in I.D. 17 were organized. Detailed follow-up to the Student Bursary Program, and assistance in the public nomination process and appointment of two new Council members were also undertaken. One hundred and eighty-four briefs were received by Council during the fiscal year, and background documentation, interdepartmental liaison activities and draft responses were undertaken in each case by the Section staff.

A significant amount of the Branch's time during the year under review was related to preparation and follow-up to the Adult Education and Training in Northern Alberta Workshop held in Athabasca, and the Alcoholism: Strategies for Northern Alberta Workshop held in Grand Centre.

Other major Branch follow-up activities arising from the briefs and/or Council-initiated requests involved: Fairview water treatment, Highway 64, Hines Creek services, Fox Creek land costs, Kathleen fertilizer plant, Anzac land tenure, Loon Lake Community Centre, Bonnyville day care, Electrical Energy Marketing Act, Hythe veterinary clinic, Blueberry Forest Co-op, Grande Prairie Treatment Centre, Highway 40, Valleyview post office, Swan Hills Hazardous Waste Plant, Elk Point senior citizens lodge, Grande Cache Correctional Centre, High Level vocational training, Manning television, Lac Cardinal restoration, rural diversification, big game ranching, medical recruitment, school bus funding, Extended Flat Rate Calling, off-track grain handling, community resource workers, local hiring, and trucking legislation.

In its work as a coordinator and facilitator and particularly as a supplier of technical support to the Northern Alberta Development Council, the Branch continued to maintain a vital communications link between northern people and government.

ALBERTA NORTH AGREEMENT

ALBERTA NORTH AGREEMENT

The Alberta North Subsidiary Agreement is an enabling agreement between the province and the federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion designed to encourage the development, within provincial line departments, of appropriate programs beneficial to Northern Alberta.

The current fiscal year represented the final year of operation under the 1978-83 Agreement, resulting in $54.8 million of program expenditures over the five-year period. Alberta has proposed a renewed agreement for federal government consideration.

In 1982/83 the Northern Development Branch staff, with the advice and support of the Northern Alberta Development Council, were involved in the ongoing operation of existing programs and the development and expansion of projects eligible for cost-sharing under the terms of the agreement. Activities cost-shared reflected continued efforts in a number of human development, social adjustment and community economic development related programs.

Following is a listing of projects cost-shared during the period of the Agreement.

CANADA/ALBERTA NORTH AGREEMENT
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY

		Commitments 1978-83 Fiscal Years
Program I	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	
251101	Opportunity Corps	$12,880,516
251103	School Food Services	4,885,276
251104	Education North, Phase II	1,400,000
251105	Development of Management Capabilities	1,343,000
Program II	COMMUNITY SERVICES & FACILITIES	
251201	Northern Supplementary Fund (Water & Sewer)	579,760
251202	La Crete Water Supply	1,440,000
251203	Northern Water Supply Projects	1,013,751
251204	Internal Roads in Isolated Communities	6,740,000
251205	Metis Settlement Housing	1,805,000
251206	Isolated Communities Log Housing	1,265,564
251207	Land Tenure Secretariat	712,678
251208	Rural Electrification Associations	841,885
251209	Northern Electrification Projects	75,000
251210	I.D. 23 Natural Gas Supply	2,081,362
Program III	COMMUNITY SERVICES & FACILITIES — INDIAN RESERVES (100% Federal Funding)	9,750,600
Program IV	SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
251401	Employment Relocation Counselling	1,723,129
251402	Native Outreach	1,257,877
Program V	COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
251501	Cold Lake Baseline Study, Phase I	29,000
251502	Rural Development Projects	612,650
251503	Research & Development Assistance	1,187,920
251506	Economic Development — Metis Settlements	1,932,509
251507	Lesser Slave Lake Area Community Economic Development	600,000
251508	Economic Development — Native Associations	643,833
	TOTAL	$54,846,310